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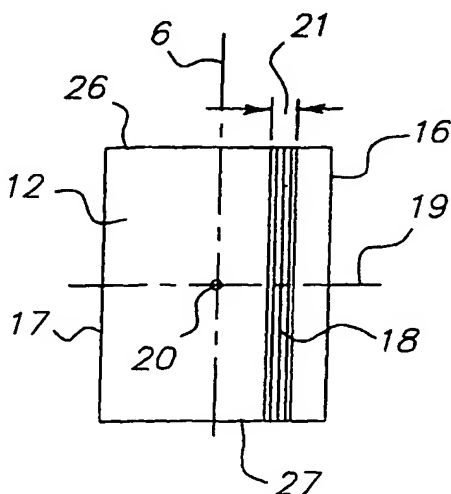
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS OF SPATIAL COLOR RESTORATION OF AN IMAGE



(57) Abstract: The present invention is in the technical field of imaging. The process of the invention enables the spatial color alterations of the silver image to be taken into account according to one of its main axes (19). The process of the invention enables the altered or faded colors of the silver image to be restored automatically, without depending on the skills of an operator to perform the color restoration treatment. The digital image (12) is divided into adjacent pixel strips (18), arranged perpendicular to the direction (19) according to which the color alteration occurs. For each of these strips (18), optical density distributions of each pixel are calculated and compared with reference optical density values. The process of the invention enables the automatic correction of all the strips (18) comprising the altered pixels, by applying a linear transformation of the optical density values of the altered pixels, into the optical density values of a pixel strip of least degradation. The process of the present invention is used in the technological field of the restoration of color photographic images.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/EP 03/06006

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 796 874 A (BARRY MICHAEL JAMES ET AL) 18 August 1998 (1998-08-18) abstract column 2, line 30 - column 3, line 40	1-10
A	US 5 920 831 A (MCELWAIN THOMAS P ET AL) 6 July 1999 (1999-07-06) abstract column 2, line 65 - column 3, line 27 column 10, line 31 - line 52 ----- -/--	1-10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>GESCHWIND R: "RESTORATION OF FADED COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS BY DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING" JOURNAL OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SCIENCE, ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, LONDON, GB, vol. 38, no. 4/5, 1990, pages 193-196, XP000159933 ISSN: 0022-3638 abstract page 194, paragraphs DIGIAL, RESTORATION page 196, paragraph 2 -----</p>	1-10

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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PCT/EP 03/06006

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5796874	A	18-08-1998	NONE	
US 5920831	A	06-07-1999	NONE	